

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 NSCE-00 /023 W
----- 094380

O R 101520Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

SECSTATE WASHDC 2618

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (SOLARZ, STEPHEN)

SUBJECT: CODEL SOLARZ

REF: BEIRUT 1876

1. SYRIAN AUTHORITIES CONFIRM THAT ALL ROADS TO LEBANON INCLUDING ROAD VIA HOMES ARE CLOSED DUE TO SNOW CONDITIONS. MORE SNOW EXPECTED TONIGHT SO CANNOT BE SURE GROUND TRAVEL WILL BE POSSIBLE TOMORROW.

2. REQUEST BEIRUT INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES OF PRIVATE CHARTER OF SMALL AIRCRAFT. IF CONGRESSMAN BELIEVES COST ACCEPTABLE AND BEIRUT FINDS IT POSSIBLE, THIS MAY BE ONLY WAY TO BE CERTAIN OF ARRIVAL IN DAMASCUS TOMORROW FROM BEIRUT.

3. WE HAVE CHECKED TO SEE IF THERE POSSIBILITY OF COMMERCIAL FLIGHT BETWEEN BEIRUT AND DAMASCUS TOMORROW. THERE ARE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE NONE. BEST ALTERNATIVE TO PARA. 2 ABOVE MAY BE TO REMAIN IN CAIRO UNTIL TOMORROW AND FLY SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES FLIGHT RF 392 SCHEDULED DEPART CAIRO AT 1500 AND ARRIVE DAMASCUS AT 1700.

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4. FOR CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ FROM AMBASSADOR:

SYRIAN OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE ARE ARRANGING YOUR SCHEDULE ARE KEEPING FLEXIBLE WITH REGARD TO MORNING PLANS ON FEB 11. IF YOU DO ARRIVE HERE IN MORNING, WE WILL MAKE VISIT TO KUNEITRA. OTHERWISE, WE WILL TRY TELESCOPE SCHEDULE AND FIT IN KUNEITRA WEDNESDAY. THIS MORNING I MENTIONED YOUR VISIT TO FORMIN KHADDAM. HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING AND HAVING OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS CURRENT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION WITH YOU.

5. ONCE ARRANGEMENTS TO GET YOU TO DAMASCUS ARE WORKED OUT, WE MAY ALL WISH RETHINK YOUR ONWARD ROUTING TO AMMAN, POSSIBLY REVIVING PLAN TRAVEL AMMAN THURSDAY BY ROAD FROM DAMASCUS.
MURPHY

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